# **Punk Faction BHP 91 To 95**

The global punk scene of the 1990s witnessed a resurgence of raw energy and DIY ethics, with the emergence of numerous factions pushing the boundaries of the genre. Among these, Punk Faction BHP stands out as a significant chapter in British punk history, leaving an indelible mark on the subculture and beyond. From 1991 to 1995, this collective of like-minded individuals challenged societal norms, sparked political debates, and ignited a musical revolution.

# **Origins and Influences**

Punk Faction BHP emerged in the early 1990s in Bristol, a city with a long-standing tradition of punk and anarchist activism. Inspired by the raw intensity of bands like Crass and Discharge, as well as the political consciousness of The Clash, a group of young musicians and activists came together to form a collective that would reflect their shared beliefs and frustrations.

#### The Collective

At its core, Punk Faction BHP was a loose-knit collective rather than a traditional band. Its members included Martin "Rat" Atkins (vocals), Arthur "Art" Williams (guitar), Tony "Bass" Hughes (bass), and Paul "Pods" Clarke (drums). Beyond this nucleus, the collective often expanded to include collaborators, poets, and street artists who shared their vision of social change.

Punk Faction, BHP '91 to '95 by Jonathan D. Green

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.6 out of 5
Language : English



File size : 248234 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 285 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



# **Music and Message**

The music of Punk Faction BHP was characterized by its aggressive, distorted sound and uncompromising lyrics. Drawing from the DIY ethos of punk, the band recorded and released their material independently on their own labels, such as Warhead Records. Their songs tackled a wide range of political and social issues, including anti-fascism, police brutality, and the exploitation of working-class communities.

#### **Live Performances**

Punk Faction BHP's live performances were legendary for their intensity and confrontational nature. The band often played in DIY spaces, squats, and community centers, reaching out to marginalized and disenfranchised audiences. Their energetic shows were fueled by a shared sense of purpose and a genuine desire to provoke thought and action.

#### **Political Activism**

Beyond their music, Punk Faction BHP members were also actively involved in political and social activism. They organized anti-racist campaigns, supported labor rights, and participated in anti-war

demonstrations. The collective saw their punk identity as inseparable from a commitment to social justice and a rejection of the status quo.

# **Controversies and Legacy**

Punk Faction BHP's outspoken lyrics and provocative performances often courted controversy. The band faced criticism from both the mainstream media and the far right, who accused them of inciting violence and promoting anti-police sentiment. Despite these challenges, the collective remained steadfast in their beliefs and refused to compromise their message.

The legacy of Punk Faction BHP extends far beyond their brief but impactful period of activity. Their music and activism continue to inspire subsequent generations of punks and activists. The band's DIY approach, political consciousness, and unwavering commitment to counterculture left an indelible mark on the British punk scene and beyond.

#### **Albums and Releases**

- Warhead (EP, 1992)
- BHP (LP, 1993)
- Class War (EP, 1994)
- The Great Divide (LP, 1995)
- Live in Bristol (Live album, 2000)

### **Key Members**

Martin "Rat" Atkins - vocals

- Arthur "Art" Williams guitar
- Tony "Bass" Hughes bass
- Paul "Pods" Clarke drums
- Dave "Dago" Bembridge artwork
- Rick "Pongo" Martin lyrics
- John "Fluff" Croft photography

#### **Related Movements and Bands**

- Crass
- Discharge
- The Clash
- Anti-Fascist Action (AFA)
- Class War

## **Images for Alt Attributes**

- Profile picture of Martin "Rat" Atkins with a spiked mohawk and a "Fuck the Pigs" patch on his jacket.
- Live performance shot of Punk Faction BHP, the stage bathed in red and black lighting, with the crowd moshing below.
- Anti-war protest led by Punk Faction BHP members, carrying banners and chanting slogans.
- Cover artwork of the band's "BHP" album, featuring a black and white photo of a police officer in riot gear with a red cross painted over his

face.

#### **SEO Title**

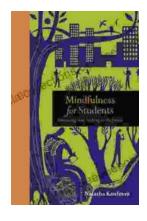
Punk Faction BHP: The Countercultural Force that Defined the British Punk Scene from 1991 to 1995



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